UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION

No. 7:16-cv-00355-FL

SHANE MATHIS, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

V.

LENDMARK FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC,

Defendant.

DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO COMPEL ARBITRATION AND STAY PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to Rules 12(b)(1) and 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and Rule 7.1 of the Court's Local Civil Rules, Defendant Lendmark Financial Services, LLC respectfully moves to dismiss the complaint and, in the alternative, to compel arbitration and stay all further proceedings.

Under Rule 12(b)(1), Lendmark moves to dismiss the complaint on the grounds that a mandatory arbitration agreement bars this lawsuit. In the alternative, and on the same grounds, Lendmark moves the Court for an order compelling arbitration and staying all further proceedings under section 3 of the Federal Arbitration Act.

Under Rule 12(b)(6), Lendmark moves to dismiss the complaint on the grounds that the Plaintiff did not—and cannot—allege an essential element of his claim.

Lendmark is contemporaneously submitting a memorandum in support of this motion.

POYNER SPRUILL LLP

By: s/ Andrew H. Erteschik

James S. Livermon, III NC State Bar No. 26492 Andrew H. Erteschik N.C. State Bar No. 35269

Richard A. Prosser

N.C. State Bar No. 38443

P.O. Box 1801

Raleigh, NC 27602-1801 Telephone: 919.783.6400 Facsimile: 919.783.1075 aerteschik@poynerspruill.com clivermon@poynerspruill.com rprosser@poynerspruill.com

John M. Durnovich N.C. State Bar No. 47715 301 S. College St., Suite 2300 Charlotte, NC 28202 Telephone: 704.342.5250 Facsimile: 704.342.5264 jdurnovich@poynerspruill.com

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT LENDMARK FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to all counsel and parties of record, and that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing upon all parties by depositing a copy of the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

J. Matthew Norris NORRIS LAW FIRM, PLLC P.O. Box 1318 Wake Forest, NC 27588

John D. Hafeman MILITARY JUSTICE ATTORNEYS PLLC 219 Scott Street Beaufort, SC 29902

John Roddy Elizabeth Ryan Benjamin Lajoie BAILEY GLASSER LLP 99 High Street, Suite 304 Boston, MA 02110

R. Paul Hart Jeremy S. McKenzie KARSMAN, MCKENZIE & HART 21 W. Park Ave. Savannah, GA 31401

Counsel for Plaintiff

This the 7th day of November, 2016.

s/ Andrew H. Erteschik
Andrew H. Erteschik